

Erik Engbrecht
121 S. Fremont Ave
Apt 507
Baltimore, MD 21201

Chairman Michael K. Powell
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, NW
Washington, D.C. 20554

Dear Chairman Michael K. Powell:

Thousands of American consumers have already expressed their opposition to the FCC's adoption of a "broadcast flag". I am writing to join them. As a user of open-source software, adoption of the broadcast flag will mean I am unable to receive digital television broadcasts on my computer.

Adopting the broadcast flag will make the FCC stand for "Federal Computer Control" which is outside its proper role. It is not the FCC's place to effectively choose the software licenses or computer operating systems that consumers must use in order to watch digital television broadcast on their computers.

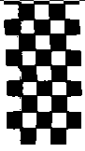
Additionally, adoption of the broadcast flag will harm innovation. Many users of open-source software are computer programmers and "tinkerers" who work to improve the software. Their contributions and constant innovation is what makes open-source software able to compete in the marketplace.

The broadcast flag rule advocated by the MPAA will ban open-source implementations of VSB and QAM modulators and demodulators, preventing open-source programmers from innovating in field of digital communications techniques used by television.

Most Americans assumed that when television became digital, viewers would be able to do more with television programming, not less. Without innovative new products and flexibility in the ways consumers are able to watch TV, consumers will be less inclined to invest in the equipment to view digital television. Therefore, the broadcast flag is likely to slow adoption of digital television in addition to making it illegal to watch digital television on a computer using open-source software. It is for these reasons I urge you to promote the digital television transition by opposing adoption of the broadcast flag.

Sincerely,

Erik Engbrecht



Julie Mayberry
2829 Sterling Park Drive
Raleigh, NC 2603

Chairman Michael K. Powell
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, NW
Washington, D.C. 20554

Dear Chairman Michael K. Powell:

Hi there,

I am a professor of Communication at NC State University and Meredith College in Raleigh, North Carolina. Since I began teaching, I have found that video clips from movies and television are VERY effective teaching tools. When I teach a concept, like conflict resolution, I can talk about it for days and days, but this is not as effective as talking about it for half an hour, and then showing a video clip from a television show that many students watch. Since conflict is a standard device used in both drama and comedy, I can find compelling examples of class concepts for my students to study. When they have heard about a concept and then see it acted out right in front of them, they not only learn and understand it better, but also the information is retained and they are more likely to use it. Many students are reluctant to act out role plays in front of their classmates, so watching a video is a very useful tool in portraying these concepts. I believe that one of the most important things about the communication theories/concepts I teach is that they are noticeable all around us in our everyday lives, and nothing illustrates this better than clips from TV shows that students already watch on a day to day basis. I have even managed to find a Simpson's episode that shows a small group's reaction to power-forcing techniques that I use on my final exam.

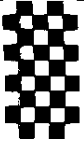
If you saw my annual salary, you would laugh. I cannot afford (nor can my department with all our budget cuts) to buy expensive video tapes depicting these concepts, and often the video tapes available for purchase are outdated, stilted, and artificial-sounding. Please don't limit my ability to use what is good and free and sitting right there.

Thank you,

Julie Mayberry

Sincerely,

Julie Mayberry



Luke Stodola
225 NRH
Rochester, NY 14623

Chairman Michael K. Powell
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, NW
Washington, D.C. 20554

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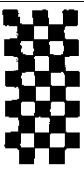
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Sincerely,

Luke Stodola



James Franklin
15926 Buffalo Creek
Frisco, TX 75035

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Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, NW
Washington, D.C. 20554

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Sincerely,

James Franklin

Monday, October 27 2003

Chairman Michael K. Powell
445 12th Street, NW
Washington, DC 20554

VIA FACSIMILE

Dear Chairman Powell,

This is a terrible idea. When the average person tries to record something and gets an error they are going to be PISSED!! The people who you are trying to stop from pirating will easily find get-arounds and other methods. This will only hurt the TV viewers who PAID FOR THEIR TV, RECORDER, AND CONTENT!!

Sincerely,

Chris Tarzon
301 N. Reuter Dr.
Arlington Heights, IL 60005

Jennifer Rike
1510 Stratford Dr
Mansfield, Tx 76063

Chairman Michael K. Powell
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, NW
Washington, D.C. 20554

Dear Chairman Michael K. Powell:

As a broadcast television viewer and consumer of electronics and computer products, I urge the Federal Communications Commission to vote against the adoption of a "broadcast flag." I am outraged that the FCC would consider a regulation would restrict the way I enjoy television.

The broadcast flag is neither in my interest nor the public's interest. It will prevent me from watching digital broadcast television in the ways I currently enjoy analog broadcast television—for example, it will restrict my ability to move the video I have recorded for personal viewing from room-to-room and place-to-place.

The broadcast flag will also lock out my computer as a way to watch my favorite shows using my choice of software on a plane or train, or to send a television clip of a high school football game to family and friends.

Furthermore, if computers cannot freely receive digital television, how can I expect creative developers to discover new devices that enable me to use content in exciting ways I haven't even thought of? I value innovative devices like TiVo, ReplayTV and the Windows Media Center PC, which exist today because they were built to open standards using inexpensive, off-the-shelf computer parts.

Librarians may make archival copies. This is perfectly legal under current copyright. While it would still be legal this broadcast flag would make it very difficult if not impossible to do in the world of digital technology.

Educators and librarians may need more insight into copyright, but that is an issue of education. Restriction does not educate it merely penalizes many for a few.

If the move to digital television does not make the public's viewing experience more enjoyable, flexible, and exciting, what compelling reason do I have as a consumer to buy new digital television equipment? A prettier picture is hardly enough reason for me to dispense with all my current consumer electronics and computer equipment. As a citizen and viewer of broadcast television, I urge you to promote the digital television transition by opposing adoption of the broadcast flag.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Rike

Monday, October 27 2003

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445 12th Street, NW
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In addition, I am very concerned about the fair-use implications of the broadcast flag. With today's technology, I can be more than a passive recipient of content – I can modify, create, and participate. I can record TV to watch later, clip a small piece of TV and splice it into a home movie; send an email clip of my child's football game to a distant relative; or record a TV program onto a DVD and play it at my friend's apartment. The broadcast flag seems designed to remove this control and flexibility that I enjoy.

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Sincerely,

Douglas Murray
1348 West Orange Grove Avenue
Pomona, CA 91768

Tom Poe
241 Crampton
Reno, NV 89502

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The last time I checked, government officials were paid by taxpayer dollars. Some would liken the situation at hand, as one between the boss (that's the taxpayer) and the employee (that's you). I understand that you, as an employee, have suggested that these petitions are really memorials, and that we should endeavor to let you know we do or do not want the broadcast flag, not by sending you a yes/no decision via petition, but by memorializing our feelings about the issue.

I just cannot believe the arrogance of you folks. Who do you think you are? You are intimately familiar with the BPDG discussions, the report that included the following comment.

"A proposal was later made by Philips and a small number of consumer electronics companies that, for a limited number of years (intended to capture the reasonable life of legacy DVD players), in-the-clear recordings of Unscreened Content and Marked Content could be made

using standard definition DVD recorders. Motion picture companies opposed such a "grandfather" provision, inter alia, because tens of millions of legacy DVD-ROM drives would remain capable of unauthorized redistribution of such content when played back, including over the Internet." July, 2002 Draft Report

Further, you have been apprised of this handy little comment in the Draft Report to Congress:

Footnote 12:

" 12. One BPDG participant asked that "unauthorized redistribution" should be agreed not to include any redistribution that would be deemed "fair use" of content that a consumer legitimately acquires. Several BPDG participants observed that although the requirements would not impinge upon copying of time-shift recordings, current content protection technologies inevitably cannot accommodate all instances where redistribution of DTV content (e.g., the retransmission of program clips for educational purposes) might be fair use. Other participants noted that debate or comment on application of fair use principles was outside the scope of the BPDG. Some participants noted that, although such fair use purposes might be met today by converting the signals to analog and then back to digital form, it was their hope and expectation that future, more sophisticated systems that implement broadcast protection may better accommodate such fair uses."

"4.12 Both proposals for section X.2 of the Compliance and Robustness Requirements anticipate that an appropriate provision will be crafted so as to exempt the requirements from applying to products that are specifically intended for professional and broadcast

use (e.g., equipment used by studios, TV broadcasters, satellite and cable operators)."

Now, in the face of those jerks drawing up the BPDG Report for Congress, without Public input, stating that they want Hollywood studios exempt, and the other blatant disregard for the consequences associated with implementing the Broadcast Flag in a country that has chosen Democracy as its' governmental form, who are you, to continue to force the Broadcast Flag down the throats of the citizens of this country.

I am ashamed to be associated with you, by virtue of my being a citizen. History will certainly have a field day with your reputations.

Sincerely,

Tom Poe

Monday, October 27, 2003

Chairman Michael K. Powell
445 12th Street, NW
Washington, DC 20554

VIA FACSIMILE

Dear Chairman Powell,

As a consumer of broadcast television, electronics, and computer products, I urge the Federal Communications Commission to vote against the adoption of a "broadcast flag." I am gravely concerned that a broadcast flag regulation would restrict the way I enjoy television.

The digital television transition relies on convincing consumers of the benefits of switching to and buying digital television equipment. That transition will be far more palatable to me as a consumer if switching doesn't mean discarding my existing home network, buying new high-resolution displays, and finding room for yet another device in my living room. Please do not allow the MPAA and its allies to hinder the transition by making us buy special-purpose DTV devices that are more expensive and less valuable.

In addition, I am very concerned about the fair-use implications of the broadcast flag. With today's technology, I can be more than a passive recipient of content -- I can modify, create, and participate. I can record TV to watch later; clip a small piece of TV and splice it into a home movie; send an email clip of my child's football game to a distant relative; or record a TV program onto a DVD and play it at my friend's apartment. The broadcast flag seems designed to remove this control and flexibility that I enjoy.

If the move to digital television does not make the public's viewing experience more enjoyable, flexible, and exciting, what compelling reason do I have as a consumer to buy new digital equipment? A prettier TV picture is hardly enough reason for me to dispense with all my current consumer electronics and computer equipment. As a citizen and consumer of broadcast television, I urge you to promote the digital transition by opposing the broadcast flag.

Sincerely,

Joshua McConaha
5325 Westbard Ave.
Bethesda, MD 20816

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445 12th Street, NW
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Sincerely,

Michael Faulkner
2432 Lexington st
Lafayette, CO 80026

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Sincerely,

Doug Van Cleve
1511 W. Bartlett Way
Chandler, AZ 85248

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445 12th Street, NW
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Sincerely,

George Powers
21968 Gillette Drive
Los Gatos, CA 95033

Monday, October 27 2003

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445 12th Street, NW
Washington, DC 20554

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Dear Chairman Powell,

As a consumer of broadcast television, electronics, and computer products, I urge the Federal Communications Commission to vote against the adoption of a "broadcast flag." I am gravely concerned that a broadcast flag regulation would restrict the way I enjoy television. The large media companies already have too much control - they don't need even more.

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Sincerely,

Anthony Meadow
30 Pine Hills Court
Oakland, CA 94611

October 27, 2003

Chairman Michael K. Powell
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, NW
Washington, D.C. 20554

Dear Michael Powell,

I am writing to voice my opposition to any FCC-mandated adoption of "broadcast flag" technology for digital television. As a consumer and citizen, I feel strongly that such a policy would be bad for innovation, consumer rights, and the ultimate adoption of DTV.

A robust, competitive market for consumer electronics must be rooted in manufacturers' ability to innovate for their customers. Allowing movie studios to veto features of DTV-reception equipment will enable the studios to tell technologists what new products they can create. This will result in products that don't necessarily reflect what consumers like me actually want, and it could result in me being charged more money for inferior functionality.

If the FCC issues a broadcast flag mandate, I would actually be less likely to make an investment in DTV-capable receivers and other equipment. I will not pay more for devices that limit my rights at the behest of Hollywood. Please do not mandate broadcast flag technology for digital television. Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Daniel Henry Sattler
9 Warren Drive
San Francisco, CA 94131
USA

Monday, October 27 2003

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445 12th Street, NW
Washington, DC 20554

VIA FACSIMILE

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Sincerely,

Leslie E Byers
Rt 1 Box 13
Walker, WV 26180

Monday, October 27 2003

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445 12th Street, NW
Washington, DC 20554

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Sincerely,

Michael Stoner
PO Box 26
Taftsville, VT 05073

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Sincerely,

Kenneth Burton
575 Murray Blvd
Salt Lake City, UT 84123

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John Chiasson
200 Freedom Lane
Pensacola, FL 32507

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Dear Chairman Powell,

As a consumer of broadcast television, electronics, and computer products, I urge the Federal Communications Commission to vote against the adoption of a "broadcast flag." I am gravely concerned that a broadcast flag regulation would restrict the way I enjoy television.

The digital television transition relies on convincing consumers of the benefits of switching to and buying digital television equipment. That transition will be far more palatable to me as a consumer if switching doesn't mean discarding my existing home network, buying new high-resolution displays, and finding room for yet another device in my living room. Please do not allow the MPAA and its allies to hinder the transition by making us buy special-purpose DTV devices that are more expensive and less valuable.

In addition, I am very concerned about the fair-use implications of the broadcast flag. With today's technology, I can be more than a passive recipient of content -- I can modify, create, and participate. I can record TV to watch later, clip a small piece of TV and splice it into a home movie, send an email clip of my child's football game to a distant relative, or record a TV program onto a DVD and play it at my friend's apartment. The broadcast flag seems designed to remove this control and flexibility that I enjoy.

If the move to digital television does not make the public's viewing experience more enjoyable, flexible, and exciting, what compelling reason do I have as a consumer to buy new digital equipment? A prettier TV picture is hardly enough reason for me to dispense with all my current consumer electronics and computer equipment. As a citizen and consumer of broadcast television, I urge you to promote the digital transition by opposing the broadcast flag.

Sincerely,

Scott Larsen
619 Westridge Rd
Joliet, IL 60431

Monday, October 27 2003

Chairman Michael K. Powell
445 12th Street, NW
Washington, DC 20554

VIA FACSIMILE

Dear Chairman Powell,

As a consumer of broadcast television, electronics, and computer products, I urge the Federal Communications Commission to vote against the adoption of a "broadcast flag." I am gravely concerned that a broadcast flag regulation would restrict the way I enjoy television today and into the future.

I am very concerned about the fair-use implications of the broadcast flag. With today's current HD and SD broadcast technology, I can be more than a passive recipient of content -- I can modify, create, and participate. I can record TV to watch later; clip a small piece of TV and splice it into a home movie; send an email clip of my child's football game to a distant relative; or record a TV program onto a DVD and play it at my friend's apartment. The broadcast flag will remove this control and flexibility that I currently enjoy and deserve.

If the move to digital television does not make the public's viewing experience more enjoyable, flexible, and exciting, what compelling reason do will consumers have to buy new digital equipment? A prettier TV picture is hardly enough reason for me to dispense with all current consumer electronics and computer equipment, especially if I lose timeshifting and content editing ability at the same time.

As a citizen and consumer of broadcast television, I urge you to promote the digital transition by opposing the broadcast flag.

Respectfully,

Patrick J. Conley Elkhorn, WI

Sincerely,

Patrick J. Conley
W5648 Canary Rd
Elkhorn, WI 53121

Monday, October 27 2003

Chairman Michael K. Powell
445 12th Street, NW
Washington, DC 20554

VIA FACSIMILE

Dear Chairman Powell,

As a consumer of broadcast television, electronics, and computer products, I urge the Federal Communications Commission to vote against the adoption of a "broadcast flag." I am gravely concerned that a broadcast flag regulation would restrict the way I enjoy television.

The digital television transition relies on convincing consumers of the benefits of switching to and buying digital television equipment. That transition will be far more palatable to me as a consumer if switching doesn't mean discarding my existing home network, buying new high-resolution displays, and finding room for yet another device in my living room. Please do not allow the MPAA and its allies to hinder the transition by making us buy special-purpose DTV devices that are more expensive and less valuable.

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If the move to digital television does not make the public's viewing experience more enjoyable, flexible, and exciting, what compelling reason do I have as a consumer to buy new digital equipment? A prettier TV picture is hardly enough reason for me to dispense with all my current consumer electronics and computer equipment. As a citizen and consumer of broadcast television, I urge you to promote the digital transition by opposing the broadcast flag.

Sincerely,

Herb Frietsch
70-29 64th Place
Ridgewood, NY 11385

Monday, October 27 2003

Chairman Michael K. Powell
445 12th Street, NW
Washington, DC 20554

VIA FACSIMILE

Dear Chairman Powell,

As a consumer of broadcast television, electronics, and computer products, I urge the Federal Communications Commission to vote against the adoption of a "broadcast flag." I am gravely concerned that a broadcast flag regulation would restrict the way I enjoy television.

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If the move to digital television does not make the public's viewing experience more enjoyable, flexible, and exciting, what compelling reason do I have as a consumer to buy new digital equipment? A prettier TV picture is hardly enough reason for me to dispense with all my current consumer electronics and computer equipment. As a citizen and consumer of broadcast television, I urge you to promote the digital transition by opposing the broadcast flag.

Sincerely,

Gordon Sell
63 Main St
Flemington, NJ 08822